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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q78555

Masayoshi SAWAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/715,850

Group Art Unit: 2831

Confirmation No.: 3962

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: METHOD OF PREDICTING SHAPE OF WIRE-LIKE STRUCTURE, ITS APPARATUS  
AND ITS PROGRAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith. Also, enclosed is a European Office Action in a corresponding European Patent Application, along with the references cited therein.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/715,850  
Attorney Docket No.: Q78555

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made a Statement is submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
**23373**  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b>				Application Number	10/715,850
				Confirmation Number	3962
				Filing Date	November 19, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Masayoshi SAWAI
				Art Unit	2831
				Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Attorney Docket Number	Q78555
Sheet	1	of	1		

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		HILLERIN DE C-A: "USE OF THE FEM FOR THE DESIGN OF FLEXIBLE PARTS", PROCEEDINGS OF NAFEMS WORLD CONGRESS, XX, XX, vol. 1, April 25, 1999, pages 345-356, XP009052130	
		ALIBOZEK T: "SMART SOFTWARE BUILDS A BETTER HARNESS", MACHINE DESIGN, PENTON MEDIA, CLEVELAND, OH, US, vol. 70, no. 8, May 7, 1998, pages 89-92, XP001092826	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.